

## CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A network enabled online transaction risk management system comprising;
  - 5 at least one financial services server for processing financial transaction requests received over said network for at least one customer account wherein preferences for said at least one customer account are remotely configurable over said network;
  - 10 at least one client in processing communications with said at least one financial services server over said network including means for remote configuration of said at least one customer account using one or more customer preferences;
  - 15 at least one point of sales terminal in processing communications with said at least one financial services server including means for performing financial transactions with said financial services server.
2. The system according to claim 1 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes notification methods and said system comprises notification means for performing said notification methods.
3. The system according to claim 2 wherein said notification methods further includes authorization methods and said system further comprises authorization means for performing said authorization methods.
4. The system according to claim 3 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes transaction limits.
5. The system according to claim 4 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes authorization limits.
6. The system according to claim 5 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes account suspension limits.

7. The system according to claim 6 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes single transactions.
8. The system according to claim 7 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes cumulative transactions.
9. The system according to claim 8 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes an applicable time period.
10. The system according to claim 1 wherein said at least one financial services server authenticates said at least one customer before allowing said at least one customer access to said at least one customer account.
11. The system according to claim 1 wherein said communications is performed using a secure messaging protocol.
12. The system according to claim 1 wherein said network includes the Internet.
13. The system according to claim 1 wherein said network includes a public telephone service network.
14. The system according to claim 1 wherein said network includes a cellular telephone network.
15. The system according to claim 1 wherein said network includes a cable television network.
16. The system according to claim 2 wherein said notification means includes a cellular telephone.
17. The system according to claim 2 wherein said notification means includes a pager.
18. The system according to claim 2 wherein said notification means includes a regular telephone.

19. The system according to claim 2 wherein said notification means includes electronic mail.
20. The system according to claim 2 wherein said notification means includes a personal data assistant.
21. The system according to claim 2 wherein said notification means includes a television equipped with a set top box.
22. The system according to claim 9 further including comparator means wherein said comparator means compares financial transactions received from said at least one point of sales terminal to said one or more customer preferences.
23. The system according to claim 22 wherein notifications are sent to said at least one customer using said notification means if said financial transactions exceeds said one or more customer preferences.
24. The system according to claim 23 wherein authorization requests are sent to said at least one customer using said notification means if said financial transactions exceeds said one or more customer preferences.
25. The system according to claim 24 wherein said at least one customer account belonging to said at least one customer is suspended if said financial transactions exceeds said one or more customer preferences.
26. A method for reducing financial transaction risk comprising;
  - establishing networking communications between a client and a financial services server by at least one customer wherein said financial services server is in processing communications with at least one point of sales terminal,
  - accessing an account on said financial services server owned by said at least one customer,

entering one or more customer preferences,

comparing financial transactions received from said at least one point of sales terminal to said one or more customer transactions,

5 sending notifications to said at least one customer if said financial transactions exceed said one or more customer preferences,

10 requesting authorization of said at least one customer if said financial transactions exceed said one or more customer preferences,

suspending further financial transactions of said at least one customer if said financial transactions exceed one or more customer preferences.

15 27. The method according to claim 26 further including the step of authenticating said customer to said financial services server.

28. The method according to claim 26 wherein said networking communications includes using the Internet.

20 29. The method according to claim 26 wherein said networking communications includes using a public telephone service network.

25 30. The method according to claim 26 wherein said networking communications includes using a cellular telephone network.

31. The method according to claim 26 wherein said networking communications includes using a cable television network.

30 32. The method according to claim 26 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes transaction limits.

33. The method according to claim 26 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes authorization limits.

34. The method according to claim 26 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes account suspension limits.

5 35. The method according to claim 26 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes single transactions.

36. The method according to claim 26 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes cumulative transactions.

10 37. The method according to claim 26 wherein said one or more customer preferences includes an applicable time period.

38. The method according to claim 26 wherein said notification methods includes a cellular telephone.

15 39. The method according to claim 26 wherein said notification methods includes a pager.

20 40. The method according to claim 26 wherein said notification methods includes a regular telephone.

41. The method according to claim 26 wherein said notification methods includes electronic mail.

25 42. The method according to claim 26 wherein said notification methods includes a personal data assistant.

43. The method according to claim 26 wherein said notification methods includes a television equipped with a set top box.